

Moss in June. These are the first since the early 1940's. Is this another example of an insect extending its range owing to the exceptional weather conditions of 1976? — A. WM. SPEED, The Dumbles, 14 Field Close, Hilton, Derbyshire.

THE WAVED BLACK (*PARASCOTIA FULGINARIA* L.) IN EAST KENT. — A worn male of this moth was taken in a m.v.l. trap at the Field Study Centre, Canterbury, Kent on the night of 7th August, 1977. This appears to be a rare species in Kent with probably only about a dozen specimens recorded. — T. W. HARMAN, Field Study Centre, Ex Broadoak Sub-station, Broadoak Road, Canterbury.

THE GREAT PIERINAE MYSTERY. — I have lived in Norway for 30 years and for 20 of them I worked as an engineer in a food-canning factory in Oslo. My home was only two kilometres from the factory and in summer I used to walk to and from work. My route took me across a park and then over a piece of ground called the Ola Narr. This is an area of rough, uncultivated land about a kilometre long and half a kilometre wide, bounded on one side by a railway embankment covered in an assortment of weeds. It is rather like Barnes Common in west London.

My observations started in 1950. Having noticed that numerous Pierinae were on the wing, I used to carry a net and killing-bottle with me in order to search for varieties. During the next 18 years I must have netted many hundreds of whites, all of which were the green-veined white (*Pieris napi* L.) except for seven small whites (*P. rapae* L.), three of which I kept. I caught over 30 "vars" of *P. napi* over this period, including one ab. *immaculata* Strand and a perfect female apparently referable to ssp. *bicolorata* Petersen. How the latter got there I do not know, as Langer (*Nordens Dagsommerfugle*) states that it is found only in the north of Sweden.

In 1968 I was taken ill and had to spend a year in hospital. After my discharge I started work again, but my complaint returned and I spent a further six months in a convalescent home. I was then discharged from my employment on full pension. There was therefore a lapse of two years before I was able to take up my bug-hunting again. When the spring came, I took a walk over the Ola Narr to see how *P. napi* was getting on. There were plenty of whites on the wing and I caught about a dozen: every one was *P. rapae*! During the last seven years I have visited the locality once or twice a week and have seen hundreds of *P. rapae*, but not more than 20 *P. napi*. How the change came about I do not know. There is no alteration in the habitat except that over on the other side of the common they have built an open-air swimming-bath and sun-bathing lido. Since then there have been numbers of "bikini-beauties" flying about which may have frightened *P. napi* away — they certainly do not frighten me away! If any readers of *The Record* can solve this mystery, I shall be glad to hear from them. — HENRY LEE, Voyensvringen 20, L.531, Oslo 4, Norway, 21.v.77.